re CHAIR IN MUSIC — memorandum by Z A Lack — May 1919 (009)

Board

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CABLE ADDRESS: BLAKES, TORONTO.

Toronto, May 15th, 1919

Sir Robert Falconer,

President, University of Toronto,

TORONTO.

My Dear Sir Robert:-

The enclosed memorandum which I have written, with respect to an interview which I had a few days ago with Mr. J. W. Mallon about the establishment of a Chair in Music in the University of Toronto, will no doubt interest you.

Faithfully yours,

Zasash

Enc.

Re Chair in Music at University of Toronto

J. W. Mallon of Osgoode Hall called on me on Monday the 12th instant and told me that his wife is a Musician and that she and other ladies in Toronto wish to endow a Chair in Music in the University, as a memorial for the late Dr. Torrington, and he asked for some general information with respect to the Department of Music. He was aware, from the reports in the press, that the University was negotiating to take over the Toronto Conservatory of Music, and he wanted to know whether, if the ladies succeeded in raising the fund to endow the Chair, the person appointed would have to be a graduate in Music of the University or of the Conservatory. He said the answer to this question might affect materially the raising of the endowment. I explained to him generally the nature of the arrangement between the Conservatory and the University. I told him that, although the Act had been passed by the Legislature authorizing the parties to enter into the arrangements, yet it had not been finally completed. I told him that until the agreement was executed, and became effective, it would be premature to bring the matter up before the University authorities for discussion. I told him, however, that my personal view was that, if an endowed Chair in Music were offered to the University, the Board of Governors would not take a narrow view with respect to the terms upon which

the donors might offer the Chair, and that, speaking for myself, I thought that if one of the terms was that the person to be appointed to the Chair should be selected for his qualifications and that the choice should not be limited to those who held a Degree from any specified College or University, such term would not be objectionable. On the contrary, the desire of the University is to take its place as a National, rather than as a Provincial, institution, and that the wider the choice, and the wider the connections resulting from the choice, the better it would be for the University. I asked him to wait until I could tell him that the agreement with the Conservatory had been completed, and that then the President of the University,and the Board of Governors would be in a position to discuss the matter referred to. I asked him what figure the ladies had in mind. He said $3000. per annum, which he thought would represent a capital of $60,000.

Mr. Mallon's address is - J. W. Mallon, Osgoode Hall, Toronto.

Toronto, May 15th, 1919